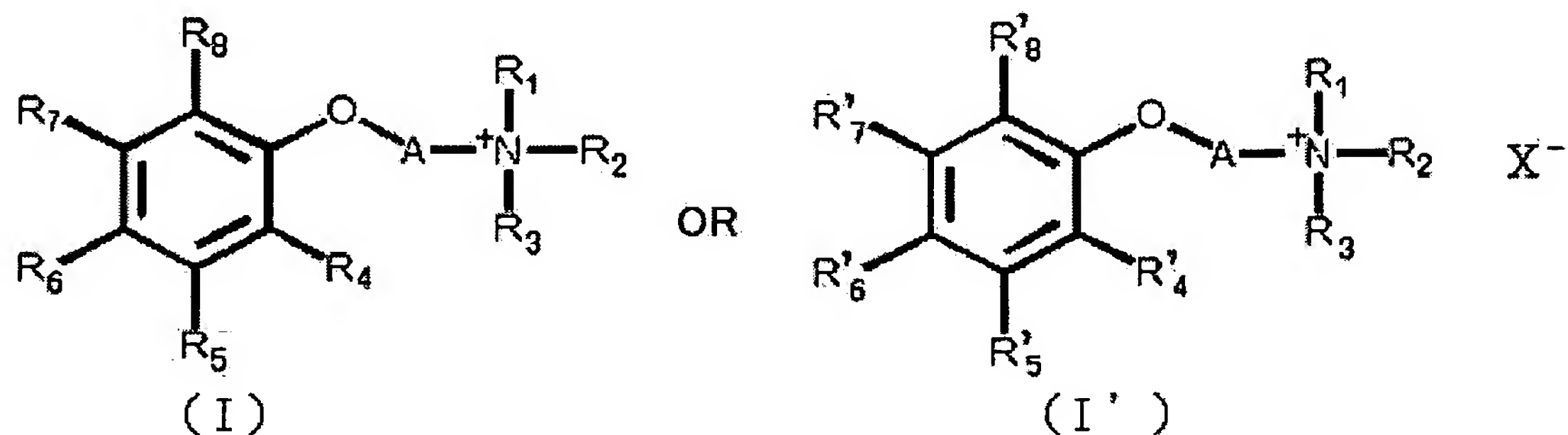


### ABSTRACT

A quaternary ammonium compound of the present invention is a quaternary ammonium compound represented by general formula (I) or (I')



(wherein, A represents a linear alkyl group having 1 to 4 carbon atoms, a branched alkyl group having 2 to 4 carbon atoms, a linear alkyl group having 1 to 4 carbon atoms and a hydroxyl group, or a branched alkyl group having 2 to 4 carbon atoms and a hydroxyl group,  $R_1$  to  $R_3$  may be the same or different and represent a linear or branched alkyl group having 1 to 12 carbon atoms, one of  $R_4$  to  $R_8$  represents  $CO_2^-$  or  $SO_3^-$ , while no more than three of the remaining  $R_4$  to  $R_8$  represent a group selected from the group consisting of a hydroxyl group and an alkoxy group having 1 to 4 carbon atoms, and other  $R_4$  to  $R_8$  represent a hydrogen atom, one of  $R'_4$  to  $R'_8$  represents  $CO_2H$  or  $SO_3H$ , no more than three of the remaining  $R'_4$  to  $R'_8$  represent a group selected from a protected hydroxyl group and an alkoxy group having 1 to 4 carbon atoms, while other  $R'_4$  to  $R'_8$  represent a hydrogen

atom, and  $X^-$  represents an anion capable of forming a salt with a quaternary ammonium group).